

#12/IDS



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 7414.0020-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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JUL 25 2002

In re Application of:

H. Michael WENZ

) Group Art Unit: 1637

Application No.: 09-724,755

) Examiner: J. Fredman

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed: November 28, 2000

For: METHODS FOR DETECTING  
TARGET NUCLEIC ACIDS USING  
COUPLED LIGATION AND  
AMPLIFICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement (Statement) is being filed, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits after the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed concurrently herewith.

Copies of the listed documents were submitted on April 29, 2002 and May 15, 2002, in United States Patent Application No. 09/584,905, filed May 30, 2000. Applicant relies upon that application for the benefits provided in 35 U.S.C. § 120.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

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This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this Information Disclosure Statement and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: July 22, 2002

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